

MAY 29 2007

Reconsideration  
Serial No. 10/771,603

Docket No. 5000-1-511.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-20 are rejected. Claims 1 and 18 are independent claims. Claims 1-20 are pending. Reconsideration of the above-identified application based upon the following remarks, is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2 and 18-20 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Song et al (US 2004/0033076) as applied to claims 1-2, and in view of Arecco (US 6,400,476) and Oberg et al (US 2005/0084262).

In response, base claims 1 and 18 have been amended to recite "A wavelength division multiplexing (WDM) hubbed ring network in which one central office is connected to a plurality of remote nodes by one optical transmission line, said network comprising.....wherein each of the remote nodes further comprises an optical switch installed between the bidirectional add/drop multiplexer and said optical transmission line, and provided with four ports for performing a switching operation to connect a first port to a second port and a third port to a fourth port in case of a normal state and to connect the first port to the third port and the second port to the fourth port in case of a system failure so that the optical signal having higher priority can be recovered first."

The present invention discloses recovering the high-priority optical signal by controlling one switch installed in one optical line to be a cross state when the system is failed during a bi-direction transmission of the high-priority optical signal and the low-

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priority optical signal through one optical transmission line.

None of the references, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests all of the features as recited in the amended base claims. For example, Arecco discloses the optical switches installed on two optical lines (110, 120). In other words, the present invention discloses the structure recovering the high-priority optical signal by controlling one switch installed on one optical line to be a cross state, whereas Arecco discloses the optical switch installed on two optical lines (110, 120), wherein controlling the optical signal from one optical line to be the other optical line.

Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of rejection under 103(a) as references, alone or in combination, fails to teach or show features as in the newly amended base claims.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual consideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

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For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the present claims are patentable in view of the cited reference. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues, which may be best, resolved by telephone communication, please contact Applicant's undersigned Attorney at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CHA & REITER

  
By: Steve S. Cha  
Attorney for Applicants

Date: May 29, 2007

Mail all correspondence to:  
Steve S. Cha  
CHA & REITER  
210 Route 4 East, #103  
Paramus, NJ 07652  
Tel. (201) 226-9245  
Fax. (201) 226-9246